MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 2, 2015/2016

BCT1024 – CRITICAL THINKING AND APPLICATION IN MANAGEMENT

(All sections / Groups)

10th MARCH 2016
9.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.
(2 Hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS:

1. This question paper consists of **THREE** parts and **12** pages (excluding the cover page).
   - **Part A**: Multiple choice questions (40 marks)
   - **Part B**: Short Answer (10 marks)
   - **Part C**: Analytical questions (30 marks)
2. The total mark for this paper is 80 marks. This final examination will contribute 50% toward your grade in this course.

PART A: MULTIPLE CHOICE (40 marks)

Part A is to be answered on the multiple-choice answer sheet that will be distributed by the invigilators. You do not need to write anything in the Answer Booklet.

Read each of the items below carefully and then indicate the most appropriate response on the multiple-choice answer sheet. (2 marks for each correct answer, for a total of 40 marks)

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1. Which of the following statements is TRUE?

   I. When we use the word "critical" in reference to critical thinking, we mean "negative and fault-finding."
   II. Critical thinking requires scepticism because it allows us to hold open the possibility that what we know at a given time may be only part of the picture.
   III. Critical thinking requires the ability to manage emotions such as anger, frustration and anxiety.
   IV. Thinking is "fair" when it is open-minded, impartial, and free of distorting biases and preconceptions.

   a. I, II and III
   b. I , III and IV
   c. II, III and IV
   d. IV only.

2. Which of the following passages contain arguments?

   I. He must be home. His car's in the driveway
   II. The train was late because of a signal failure.
   III. The rich and famous tend not to be happy, well-adjusted personalities. Look at Michael Jackson.

   a. I only
   b. III only
   c. I and III
   d. I , II and III

Continued....

3. Sophia closes the door to her office and sits at her desk thinking hard. "This is such a serious problem," she tells herself. "I'm glad I finally figured it out the problem statement. But now I must ask myself, 'Does this problem pose a threat?..... to our people?.....to our organization?....to the community? That's one of the most important question I have to answer before I can go on to generate a list of possible solutions".

   Right at this moment, which of the following is true about Sophia's situation?

   a. She is applying the technique called free association.
   b. She is using Kepner-Tregoe analysis.
   c. She is engaging in fallacy identification.
   d. She is experiencing wishful thinking.

4. Referring to the following list of *indicator words*:

   I. Therefore
   II. Because
   III. Since
   IV. As a result
   V. Consequently
   VI. Given that

   a. I, II and V are indicators for the conclusion; and III, IV, VI are indictors for a premise.
   b. I, III and IV are indicators for the conclusion; and II, V, VI are indictors for a premise.
   c. I, IV, V are indicators for the conclusion; and II, III, VI are indictors for a premise.
   d. I, IV, V, VI are indicators for the conclusion; and II and III are indictors for a premise.

Continued....

Question 5 is based on the following passage.

Read the following passage and identify the conclusion and premises.

If you're trying to drop a few pounds, you've probably heard a version of this advice about late-night snacking: No eating after 8 p.m. The reasoning sort of makes sense: Your metabolism slows down at night, so it may not be able to efficiently burn off those French fries you ate at 10 p.m. That's not to mention the risks of heartburn and poor sleep associated with night-time eating.

5. Which of the following is TRUE about the passage?

I. Conclusion: You must try to lose weight.
II. Conclusion: Do not eat after 8 p.m.
III. Conclusion: Night-time eating is associated with poor sleep and risk of heartburn.
IV. Conclusion: Metabolism slows down at night, causing less efficient burning of the food you eat.
V. Premise: Do not eat after 8 p.m.
VI. Premise: Night-time eating is associated with poor sleep and risk of heartburn.
VII. Premise: Metabolism slows down at night, causing less efficient burning of the food you eat.

a. I, V and VI
b. II, VI and VII
c. III, VI and VII
d. IV, V and VI

6. "No one objects to a lawyer looking up a legal case during a trial. Why, then, shouldn't students be permitted to look up an answer during an exam?"

This is an example of _____

a. a false analogy
b. a spurious correlation
c. reference to authority
d. begging the question fallacy

Continued....

7. "Langkawi is an island in the state of Kedah." This sentence _____.

I. is vague
II. is declarative
III. is a lexical definition.
IV. is a stipulative definition
V. is a statement
VI. has the property known as over-generality
VII. has the property known as semantic ambiguity

a. I, IV, VI
b. I, II, III, VII
c. II, III, V
d. II, IV, V, VII

8. Basketball players can earn millions of dollars in just one season. Football players can earn hundreds of thousand for just a 30-second TV commercial. Meanwhile a critical thinking lecture can't earn more than US $ 30, 000 a year doing one of the toughest jobs in the world. These saints work a lot harder than athletes and deserve to get paid a lot more for the miracles they perform. Who is more important – the person who thought you how to write a logical argument so you can succeed in life or the athlete who plays with a ball for a living?

Which of the following accurately describes the preceding argument?

I. It is a slippery slope argument.
II. The author uses a dysphemism.
III. The author uses interrogative question.
IV. The author uses rhetorical question.

a. I and III
b. II and IV
c. I only
d. IV only

Continued....

Question 9 is based on the following article.

Bid to restart online gambling business busted

Kota Kinabalu: An attempt to restart the online gambling business following months of closure was dashed when policemen found out about it.

A house being used as a gambling centre in Kuala Menggatal not far from here was raided following a tip off at about 5pm on Thursday.

Four workers and three customers were detained while several computers and more than RM250 in cash were seized in the raid. Kota Kinabalu police chief Assistant Commisioner M. Chandra said his men were also pursuing the organiser of the activity. "From our investigations, we discovered that the business started five days ago", he said yesterday.

He said operations against cyber gambling in the city started several months ago and would continue.

Source: *The Star*, 25 July 2015, p.26

9. This article_____
   a. contains an inductive argument
   b. contains a deductive argument
   c. is an analogical argument
   d. is NOT an argument.

10. All squares are circles
All circles are triangle
Therefore, all squares are triangles.

Which of the following describe the preceeding argument?

I. The premises of the argument are false
II. The conclusion of the argument is false
III. The argument is valid

   a. I only
   b. II only
   c. I and II
   d. I, II and III

Continued....

11. Which of the following arguments are deductive?

I. So far, no one has ever swum the Atlantic Ocean non-stop—or even come remotely close to doing so. It is unlikely in the extreme, therefore, that anyone taking this test will swim the Atlantic Ocean non-stop.

II. The Eiffel Tower is in London. London is in Germany, which is north of the Arctic Circle. It follows that the Eiffel Tower is north of the Arctic Circle.

III. Raj drives a beat-up old Volkswagen, lives in a cheap apartment, and wears shabby clothes. It's a good bet that Raj does not have much money.

IV. All cobras are poisonous snakes, and all poisonous snakes are dangerous. Therefore, all cobras are dangerous.

a. I and III
b. II and IV
c. I, II, III
d. IV only

12. Ninety percent of students at Central Tech University wear sandals to class, even in the winter. Ted is a student at Central Tech University. So, Ted likely wears sandals to class, even in the winter.

This argument is

a. inductive, strong
b. inductive, weak
c. deductive, valid
d. deductive, invalid

13. Our company always provides members of the Executive Committee with a new Mercedes to drive. I just saw Mr Lee, my former supervisor, drive by in a red Mercedes. He must have been promoted to one of the positions on the Executive Committee.

This argument is

a. inductive, strong
b. inductive, weak
c. deductive, valid
d. deductive, invalid

Continued....

14. You often hear people say that the French are rude, especially to people who don't speak their language. But France is a wonderful country! The wine, the food, the museums! There's no country in Europe I'd rather visit.

    The fallacy in the above argument is:

    a. Red herring
    b. Hasty generalization
    c. Ad populum appeal to tradition
    d. Ad hominem abusive

15. There is no information in the student's record which indicates that he is not under probation. Consequently, I can only assume that he is under probation.

    The fallacy in the above argument is:

    a. Ad populum appeal to ignorance
    b. Ad populum appeal to pity
    c. Ad hominem circumstantial
    d. False analogy

16. Sneaker City has accused our company of exploitative labor practices. But Sneaker City's labor practices are much more exploitative than ours are. I happen to know they regularly employ children as young as nine in their overseas factories. Clearly, these accusations are groundless.

    This is an example of a/an:

    a. Bandwagon argument
    b. *Tu Quoque* fallacy
    c. Post-hoc fallacy
    d. False dilemma

Continued....

17. Rashid and Amin are researching on the issue of the effect of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on retail business in Malaysia. They came across an online blog with many articles written on the topic.

Rashid: I wonder who the writer of this blog is. I can't check the qualification or affiliation of this writer since the information is not provided.

Amin: Look, here are same graphs to show how GST has affected retail business. But these graphs are not labelled properly and the writer has not stated the source of this information. There is no link provided.

Based on the above, Rashid is concerned about _____ while Amin is concerned about the _____ of the online source.

a. Objectivity, authority
b. Authority, validity
c. Objectivity, accuracy.
d. Authority, accuracy

18. Which of the following descriptions is/are true?

I	Sensationalism	An approach by news media to attract viewers
II	Fair-mindedness	Anything taken for granted in the presentation of arguments
III	Generalization	A statement made about all or most members of a group
IV	Correlation	A comparison of things based on similarities those things share

a. I and III
b. II and IV
c. I, II, III
d. IV only

Continued....

Question 19 is based on the following passage.

A group of Malaysian academics and teachers from the field of science and mathematics are discussing the issue on how to get more students interested in pursuing their studies in sciences and mathematics at tertiary level.

Mr. Alex: We are getting less students enrolling in engineering and science degree at university level this year. This is not good for our country in the long run.

Mr. Benedict: Do we have the exact data? We cannot make that conclusion unless we have data from the past 5 years to see if indeed there is a downward trend on students' interest in the field of sciences.

Mr. Chase: If you ask me, I can tell you why this happens. There was inconsistent policy at secondary school level where the medium of instruction to teach science and mathematics kept changing. Teachers are confused and demotivated. No wonder our students lose interest in science and maths. As a maths teacher and also a parent of three school-going children, this frequent changes in policy makes me angry and worried at the same time.

Mr. Drake: I think instead of asking why students lose interest in pursuing science and maths, maybe we should ask why there are still a significant number of students interested to pursue science and maths. That will give us the perspective on what we did right instead of where we went wrong.

19. Based on the Six Thinking Hats, which of the following is TRUE?

I. Mr Alex is using black hat thinking
II. Mr Benedict is using yellow hat thinking
III. Mr Chase is using red hat thinking
IV. Mr Drake is using white hat thinking
V. Mr Benedict is using white hat thinking
VI. Mr Drake is using blue hat thinking
VII. Nobody is using green hat thinking.
VIII. Nobody is using black hat thinking

a. I, II, III, VII
b. I, III, VI, VII
c. II, III, VI, VIII
d. II, V, VII, VIII.

Continued....

20. Which is the correct sequence in a systematic problem-solving process?

I. analysing the problem
II. making a decision
III. defining the problem
IV. generate alternative solutions

a. I, III, IV, II
b. IV, I, II, III
c. III, I, IV, II
d. III, I, II, IV

PART B: SHORT ANSWER (10 marks)

Answer ALL questions. Each question carries 5 marks.

1. Your cousin is operating a kindergarten/pre-school centre in the neighbourhood. She is planning to put up an advertisement for her centre in a form of a banner. She has obtained permission by the local authority to put up the advertisement by the roadside in the area.

Based on the ADVERTISING PLOYS described in your textbook (Basham, 2013):

a. **Identify ONE (1) suitable ploy to be used in the advertisement. Explain your answer with an example.**
b. **Identify ONE (1) advertising ploy which is NOT suitable for the above advertisement. Give reasons to explain your answer.**

2. You are writing a newspaper story on the topic of how rising rate of obesity among the citizen of your country is linked to poor eating habits.

You want to include a *Reference to Authority* whose opinion will support your position that lack of skill in cooking and poor food choices lead to poor eating habits. Who would you choose? Explain why.

Continued....

PART C: ANALYTICAL QUESTION (30 marks)

Read the following passage and then answer the questions which follow.

Kuala Lumpur, Dec 2 — A medical specialist and motivational speaker today called on the Malaysian government to offer bonuses and cash gifts to healthy Malaysians as a way to fight the new vaping fad.

Eye specialist Professor Dr Muhaya Mohamad told a Health Ministry forum on vaping here that the incentives should be given to those who maintain healthy body weights and good Body Mass Index (BMI) readings, as well as those who do not take medical leaves and have good work attendance records.

"So talking about vape and cigarette.....it's a bad habit. How can we remove bad habits? We replace bad habits with good habits."

"I suggest to the Health Ministry of Malaysia to not just go for disease fighting, we go for wellness. Can we make a programme whereby, for every person who has a healthy body we give them money."

"They get money from the government for being healthy and becoming healthy citizens without the need to take medical leave. And for those who don't take medical leave, pay them bonuses. That should be the way," Dr Muhaya said to applause from the packed hall.

Source:http://www.themalaymailonline.com/malaysia/article/to-stop-vaping-doctor-tells-putrajaya-to-reward-healthy-malaysians-with-cas#sthash.y2wKZ0or.dpuf

Questions

1. State the **main claim** being made by Professor Dr Muhaya Mohamad. (3 marks)

2. Identify an **implicit assumption** underlying the claim made by the Professor. (3 marks)

Continued....

3. Which standard of good critical thinking is NOT met in the above argument? Identify two (2) of the standards and explain your answer. (6 marks)

4. Do you agree or disagree with the idea proposed by Professor Dr Muhaya Mohamad?

Write a brief argumentative essay to state your point of view regarding the issue.

Your argument must contain the following "parts". Label each part with the code indicated below. (That is, after the conclusion, write '[C]'; after your anecdote, write "[ANE]"; etc.)

Include each of the following in your argument:

Part of the argument	label	marks
• Conclusion/Main claim	[C]	1 mark
• Two PREMISES	[P1 and P2]	2 marks each (total 4)
• An ANECDOTE to support P1	[ANE]	3 marks
• A supporting argument which contains a LEADING QUESTION to support P2	[LQ]	4 marks

(12 marks)

5. Demonstrating your knowledge of the SCAMPER technique, identify a new solution different than the one suggested by Professor Dr Muhaya Mohamad. (3 marks)

6. Analyse the advantages and disadvantages of the identified solution. (3 marks)

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